Library

RURAL DISTRICT OF PEWSEY

Annual Reports

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1965.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE
(as at December, 1965)

Chairman: Councillor S.T.N. Nutley

Vice-Chairman: Councillor R.N. Swanton

Councillor Mrs A.L. Beattie
Councillor C.G. Buckland
Councillor G.W.C. Bush
Councillor G.F. Kunkler
Councillor G.B. Lambert
Councillor W.H.R. Major
Councillor A.W. Sadler
Councillor Maj. Gen. D.D.C. Tulloch
Councillor B.G. Williams

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

F.D.F. STEEDE, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Clerk (M.O.H. Office)

Miss G.M. Boswell

Council Offices, 1 The Green,
Marlborough. Tel.: 487 and 118

Senior Public Health Inspector:

T.F. HARDING, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

P. GLADWIN, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Technical Assistant:

L.T. JONES

Rodent Operator:

P.N. RAISEY

Clerk (R.D.C. Office)

Mrs. Dowden, part time

Public Health Department, Council Offices,
The Old Rectory, Pewsey, Wilts.
Tel.: Nos. 2261/2/3

The Medical Officer of Health acts in a similar capacity for the Borough of Marlborough, and the Rural Districts of Amesbury, and Marlborough and Ramsbury. These combined districts have a population of 64,910 and an area of 255,289 acres. They have appointed a Joint Committee, The East Wiltshire United Districts (Medical Officer of Health) Committee to deal with all matters relating to the office of Medical Officer of Health. The Medical Officer of Health also performs duties for the Wiltshire County Council under the National Health Service, Education and Mental Health Acts.

RURAL DISTRICT OF PEWSEY

East Wilts United Districts (M.O.H.) Office,
1, The Green,
Marlborough.

Telephone 487/118

To The Chairman and Councillors of the Rural District:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1965, which is compiled on similar lines to last year to comply with the requirements of the Ministry of Health. I am grateful to Mr. Harding, the Chief Public Health Inspector for his report which is included, and I am also indebted to Dr. Lycett, the County Medical Officer for supplying details of immunisation procedures carried out.

The Rural District with the parish of Pewsey situated close to its centre, at a distance of seven miles south of Marlborough, is very largely concerned with agriculture and agricultural pursuits. However, it also contains large Ministry of Defence establishments wherein a considerable number of civilian residents find their employment. The district is traversed for a great deal of its extent by the river Avon and its twin sources, together with its tributary the river Bourne. The countryside is extremely attractive, many of the parishes present a very pleasant old world character, and has a considerable attraction for visitors. At the present time it enjoys good rail communication with London.

During the year the general health of the district has given no cause for anxiety. This satisfactory state of affairs is borne out by a scrutiny of the vital statistics based on figures supplied by the Registrar General. Deaths are only fractionally up, but the slightly higher adjusted rate resulting is still below the national average. The number of births is reduced by 49, but again the birth rate remains higher than that for the country as a whole. The natural increase - the excess of births over deaths - is 299. The estimated increase is however, 880, a change from last year, when there was a loss. This is almost certainly arrived at by consideration of the new development currently taking place in North Tidworth. Infant mortality based on five infant deaths - although two further deaths of young children, both from broncho pneumonia occurred between the age of one year and 15 months - is possibly the lowest rate ever recorded, almost half that of the country as a whole, which it has been lower than for the past four years. Our congratulations are due to all those concerned with maternity services locally, for this very satisfactory state of affairs.

Of the deaths which have occurred, those from cancer have increased sharply. Although the precise cause of cancer still remains to be discovered, a great deal can be done for this disease, and a cure is a common result when the diagnosis is made early. Cancer of the breast is one of the forms of cancer where early diagnosis is always possible, with an excellent prospect of complete cure, if the family doctor is consulted promptly. The same holds true for cervical cancer, which can be diagnosed in a precancerous stage, and I am very glad that the County Health Department are now holding regular diagnostic clinics at Marlborough for all women over 25 years. In the case of cancer of the lung, from which there were again eight deaths, with two of these in women, early diagnosis, due to its insidious onset, is unusual, so that prevention is the best safeguard. In practice this means the avoidance of cigarette smoking, since in nine cases out of ten, this is the only important pre-

disposing factor. The extent of the risk of lung cancer has been calculated as one in eight in the case of heavy cigarette smokers, as against 1 in 300 in non-smokers. This risk is estimated to be halved when the smoker gives this harmful habit up. Cancer of the lung is not the only, and perhaps not the most important hazard which the cigarette smoker incurs; coronary heart disease is much more common in the younger middle aged cigarette smoker, and chronic bronchitis which cripples for years before it kills, is very severely aggravated by cigarette smoke. I feel that too little attention has been given to the estimate given for expectation of life in the Report of the Royal College of Physicians on Smoking and Health, 1962 where it was stated "The chance of dying in the next ten years for a man aged 35 who is a heavy cigarette smoker is 1 in 23, whereas the risk for a non-smoker is only 1 in 90." It seems odd to me that people are prepared to pay hard earned money to maintain a habit which carries the certainty that for many permanent injury to health or premature death will result. Apart from personal unhappiness and suffering, there is the economic side of the picture, which deprives the nation of a great deal of man hours, while a considerable proportion of fire damage is caused by the careless habits of cigarette smokers.

Road accidents accounted for five deaths, and there were four other accidental deaths, one of which was due to clothing set alight by the act of a careless smoker.

Housing conditions are reasonably good, and although the waiting list for Council accommodation is still large, the really urgent list shows some reduction. I am very happy indeed with the manner in which Council houses are let which is under the administrative control of the Public Health Department. Every housing applicant is visited by an officer of the Department and the Council do their utmost to consider and give due weight to housing needs in every case. I am very glad to know that the Council appreciate the serious need for housing where children are concerned where the home is a residential caravan. Caravans cannot, and do not, provide a suitable environment in which to bring up a family, for although overcrowding cannot be assessed statutorily the lack of space is a drawback for which there is simply no answer. I am also very appreciative that cases of housing need on medical grounds, which are never put forward by me without very serious consideration, have always been given the priority which they have deserved and which was possible in the light of accommodation available.

Slum clearance is virtually at an end, although the individual unfit house must inevitably continue to crop up. Your Chief Public Health Inspector has commented on the number of properties improved by grant procedure. In addition of course, in recent years in many instances, cottage property has been acquired and modernised at considerable, and at what would in the past, have been considered unreasonable expense without a grant.

Problem families are few, but absorb a great deal of time and energy, out of proportion to their number. There is no doubt that the Co-ordinating Committee is an extremely valuable piece of administrative machinary, without which attempts to rehabilitate these families would be even more dirficult.

The Council accepted representations during the year to strengthen the clerical side of the Public Health Department, and this I hope will allow your Public Health Inspectors to spend more time on the supervision of food hygiene. This is a matter which requires continuous regular attention, if the standard is to be raised and maintained. Education on this matter of food hygiene is all important and best done on the spot when individual problems can be discussed with the management concerned. No matter how good the premises are, slovenly food handling habits, and above all, carelessness with regard to hand washing can have serious results. With regard to hand washing, I deplore the communal towel, and recommend that it be replaced by the disposable paper article which is the cheapest acceptable method having regard to hygienic considerations.

Apart from measles the incidence of notifiable disease was very low. Only five cases of dysentery occurred, and all were followed up with diligence and there was no significant spread.

Returns for vaccination against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough are reasonably satisfactory, but those for vaccination against poliomyelitis in children under the age of five are rather less good. There must be no falling off in this matter if the present freedom from poliomyelitis is to be guaranteed.

Refuse collection is carried out by the Public Health Department in a very satisfactory manner. A weekly service is operated throughout the district. A future innovation may include the introduction of a pilot small scale scheme involving the paper sack method. Although more expensive, the paper sack has a great deal to commend it on hygienic grounds. In addition, it is of course a lighter more pleasant and safer method of doing the job for the refuse collection staff.

Most of the district is now provided with main drainage, and this matter is referred to in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report in more detail.

The water supply has not yet passed to the foreshadowed South Wilts Water Board, and is now expected to do so in 1967. Again I express the hope that the Board will appoint a suitably qualified adviser as consultant on public health matters, and the difficulties which we have had with the Collingbourne water supply during the year, I feel, should lend some weight to this recommendation. This water from a poor quality source is liable to gross pollution. Chlorination of the supply was only partially effective due to the intermittent nature and character of the pollution, and to the shortness of the contact period before the water was piped into the distribution system. Plans were under consideration for all the water to be passed, after chlorination, into a service reservoir and thus provide for both mixing and adequate contact period, when silage effluent gained access to the bore. The resulting taint which persisted for many months necessitated the supply being taken out of service. Alterations have now been made on the lines proposed. The supply has not been reintroduced, but kept in reserve. In general, I am not very happy with the practice which seems fairly common of allowing chlorinated water from a bore to gain access to the distribution system after a very short contact period, after chlorination.

I cannot close this report without referring to the interest of the Council in the welfare of the elderly in general, and it is with great pleasure that I can report that a Meals on Wheels Service is operating in the Pewsey area, for which the demand has proved to be rather greater than I had anticipated. Our thanks are due to the County Welfare Department, the W.V.S. and all those who are giving so much of their time on a voluntary basis to ensure that this venture is successful. I hope that before long other parts of the district may be covered by this service.

In concluding this report I should like to thank the Council and members of the Public Health and Housing Committee for the very great deal of support which they have given me during the year. I am also grateful to the officers of the Council for their helpfulness and consideration, and particularly to Mr. Harding and his staff for the very hard work which they have put in during a busy year. I should also like to thank Dr. Lishman, who acts as my Deputy, for his ready help and advice. I am very grateful to Dr. Wormald and his staff at the Public Health Laboratory, Salisbury for their continued co-operation, often at very short notice. Finally I should like to thank my clerical assistant Miss Boswell, not only for the conscientious way she has carried out her work during the year, but also for her valued assistance with this report.

I am Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

your obedient servant,

F.D.F. STEEDE,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

Area in acres	75,828
Number of Parishes	25
Population, Registrar General's mid-year estimate	21,560
Number of inhabited houses and flats	4,805
Number of inhabited houses and flats owned by the Council	1,378
Rateable value	£579,326
Product of Penny Rate	£2,335

Vital Statistics:	M.	F.	Total
Live Births - Legitimate	235	218	453
Illegitimate	11	11	22
Totals	246	229	475
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population			22.0
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births			4.6
Stillbirths - Legitimate	3	4	7
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Totals	3	5	8
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Stillbirths			16.6
Total Live and Stillbirths			483
Deaths	102	74	176
Death Rate per 1,000 population			8.2
Infant Deaths (under one year) - Legitimate	3	2	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	3	2	5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births			10.5
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births			11.0
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births			-
Neonatal Deaths (under four weeks) - Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	2	1	3
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births			6.3
Early Neonatal Deaths (under one week) - Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	2	1	3
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births			6.3
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and Deaths under one week combined per 1,000 Total Live and Stillbirths)			22.6
Maternal Mortality including abortion			nil

Year

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Infants Deaths	12	9	9	7	5
Infant Mortality Rate	31.7	21.2	18.2	13.31	10.5

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1965

	Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2	Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3	Syphilitic diseases	-	-	-
4	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5	Whooping cough	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8	Measles	-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasms, stomach	4	2	6
11	" " lung, bronchus	6	2	8
12	" " breast	-	2	2
13	" " uterus	-	4	4
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	14	14	28
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16	Diabetes	-	3	3
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	7	18
18	Coronary disease, angina	18	4	22
19	Hypertension with heart disease	-	4	4
20	Other heart disease	16	16	32
21	Other circulatory disease	3	2	5
22	Influenza	-	-	-
23	Pneumonia	5	4	9
24	Bronchitis	8	1	9
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	2	2
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31	Congenital malformations	2	1	3
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	4	10
33	Motor vehicle accidents	5	-	5
34	All other accidents	3	1	4
35	Suicide	1	1	2
36	Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	All Causes	102	74	176

Comparison with England and Wales

	per 1,000 population		per 1,000 Live Births	per 1,000 Total Births
	Live Births (Adjusted)	Death Rate (Adjusted)	Infant Mortality	Stillbirths
Pewsey R.D.	21.34	11.48	10.5	16.6
England and Wales	18.0	11.5	19.0	15.7

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA
(as at December, 1965)

General Practitioners:

Dr. J.C. Byrne, M.B., B.Ch.,	High Street, Pewsey. Tel.: Pewsey 3117
Dr. T.G. Hynes, M.B., B.Ch., Dr. M.M.P. Hynes, M.B., Ch.B.,	North Street, Pewsey. Tel.: Pewsey 2106
Dr. M.J.L. Hassall, M.R.C.S., Dr. W. May, M.B.	The Old Bakery, Burbage. Tel.: Burbage 295
Dr. J.P.B. Arthur, M.R.C.S., Dr. G.H. Drake, M.R.C.S., Dr. G.E. Hyson, M.R.C.S., Dr. T.C. Merrington, M.B.	The Surgery, St. James Street, Ludgershall. Tel.: Ludgershall 220
Dr. D. Leaney, M.B.,	Old Brewery Cottage, Netheravon Tel.: Netheravon 332.
Dr. T. Davies, M.B., M.R.C.S.	Jarvis Street, Upavon. Tel.: Upavon 205

Hospitals:
Savernake Hospital, Marlborough. Tel.: Marlborough 820

Public Health Laboratory:
Salisbury General Infirmary (Dr. P. Wormald, M.A., M.D.) Tel.:Salisbury 3231

County Council Health Department Services:

(a) Ambulance Facilities:
This service is based in Swindon. dial 999

(b) District Nurse/Midwifes:

Mrs. W.E. Phillips, "Rooftops", Buckleaze Lane, Pewsey. Tel.: Pewsey 3345	Milton Lilbourne, Pewsey, Wootton Rivers.
Mrs. S. Strickland, The Nurse's Home, Milton Lilbourne. Tel.: Pewsey 3264	Alton, Huish, Manningford, Stanton St. Bernard, Woodborough, Charlton.
Miss M.C. Gurr, 62, Watson Close, Upavon, Tel.: Upavon 281	North Newton, Rushall, Upavon, Wilcot, Wilsford, Hilcot.
Mrs. R.E. Isaac, 4 Sidbury Hill Avenue, North Tidworth. Tel.: Tidworth 3287	North Tidworth, Collingbournes, Brunton.

(c) Clinics:

Infant Welfare Centres.

Ludgershall, Memorial Hall.	Second and last Wednesday of each month 2 - 4 p.m.
Netheravon, Parish Hall, Fittleton.	First and third Wednesday of each month 2.30 - 4 p.m.
Pewsey, Bouverie Hall.	First Thursday of each month 2 - 4 p.m. Third Thursday of each month 2.30 - 4 p.m.

Tidworth, Families M.I. Room, Old Isolation Hospital.	Every Monday, 2 - 4 p.m.
Upavon R.A.F. Station, Wives' Club.	Second Thursday of each month, 2.30 - 4 p.m.

Cervical Cytology Clinic:

The Clinic, 8, Kingsbury Street, Marlborough.	First and Third Tuesday of each month, 2.15 p.m. - 4.15 p.m.

Health Visitors' Centres:

Burbage, Dr. Hassall's Surgery.	Third Monday of each month, 2 - 4 p.m.
Collingbourne Ducis, Comrades Club.	First Thursday of each month, 2 - 4 p.m.
Perham Down, Wives' Club Medical Centre.	Second and Fourth Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
Upavon Village, The Reading Room.	Third Tuesday of each month, 2.30 - 4 p.m.
Woodborough, Woodborough & District Country Club Hall.	Fourth Thursday of each month, 2 - 3.30 p.m.

(d) Health Visitors:

Miss M.F. Cummings, 36, Old Winton Road, Andover.	Perham Down, North Tidworth - part.
Miss D.M. Cripps, Corner Cottage, Dragon Lane, Manningford Bruce. Tel.: Pewsey 2221.	Pewsey, North Tidworth - part.
Mrs. A.H. Soilleux, 376, The Pennings, North Tidworth. Tel.: Tidworth 2214.	Burbage area, Pewsey.
Mrs. P.M. Thomas, 19, Leigh Road, Penhill, Swindon.	Netheravon, Upavon.

(e) Mental Welfare Officer:
Health Centre, Milton Road, Swindon. Tel.: Swindon 22668

(f) Chiropody Service:
This is mainly domiciliary service.

County Welfare Department:- Area Welfare Officer:
Mr. A.P.A. Tucker, A.I.S.W., 66, New Street, Devizes. Tel.: Devizes 976

County Council Children's Department:
The Area Children's Officer, 36 Milton Road, Swindon. Tel.: Swindon 4102

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1965

Disease	Total cases	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths	Analysis of total cases in age groups												
				under one year	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-65	65+	age un-known
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Acute encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	125	-	-	8	16	16	14	9	53	8	1	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	9	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet fever	11	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	144	-	9	9	16	17	15	10	60	13	2	1	-	1	-	-

IMMUNISATION STATISTICS, 1965

Diphtheria, Whooping cough and Tetanus Immunisation

Year of Birth		1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1956-60	1950-55	Others under 16
imary munisations mpleted ring 1965	Diph.	171	204	13	8	3	35	-	-
	Wh/c.	166	203	12	6	1	2	-	-
	Tet.	171	204	13	8	3	38	2	2
inforcing jections ministered ring 1965	Diph.	-	27	93	21	7	263	5	-
	Wh/c.	-	19	65	6	1	35	3	-
	Tet.	-	27	93	22	7	259	13	-

Smallpox Vaccination

	Months				Years		
Age Group	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1	1-4	5-15
Vaccinations	1	18	14	32	193	69	24
Re-vaccinations	-	-	-	-	-	4	8

Poliomyelitis Immunisation

Age Group	3rd. quad.	2nd. inj.	3rd. inj. or 4th quad	4th. inj.	3 oral doses	2 orals after 2 inj.	4th oral after 3 inj. or 3 oral
1965	-	-	-	-	54	-	-
1964	-	-	-	-	276	-	5
1963	-	-	-	-	38	-	10
1962	-	-	-	-	27	-	7
1961	-	-	-	-	19	-	9
1956 - 1960	-	-	-	-	58	-	185
1950 - 1955	-	-	-	-	12	-	7
thers under 16	-	-	-	-	- -	-	2
Others over 16	-	-	-	-	47	-	9
Totals	-	-	-	-	531	-	234

RURAL DISTRICT OF PEWSEY

Council Offices,
The Old Rectory,
Pewsey,
Wilts.

Telephone - 2261

To The Chairman and Members of the Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my report on the work of the Public Health Department during 1965. I have taken advantage of the fact that this report is no longer printed, to deal in somewhat greater detail than usual with items of particular interest, the most notable of these being a short account of the difficulties which beset the Council in regard to the pollution of the Collingbourne Water Supply.

A noteworthy improvement in environmental health conditions was made during 1965, in that the Council introduced a weekly refuse collection throughout the whole of the district in October of that year. Refuse Collection problems were further increased when the Council took over from the Army Department responsibility for the collection of refuse from all Army establishments and married quarters in the district. These matters are also referred to in some detail on the report. As may be expected, this considerable increase in the work of the Department could only be accomplished at the expense of the more routine tasks such as Food Hygiene work and inspections under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 and I regret that it was not possible to give these matters the attention that they deserve.

At the end of the year the Council authorised the appointment of a full time Clerk in the Health Department, and this person, when appointed, will certainly help to free the Technical Staff for the work that they should be doing. For this reason I hope that the report for 1966 may make happier reading (and writing!) than this one.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T.F. Harding

T.F. Harding
Senior Public Health Inspector

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1965

1. Number of New houses and flats erected during the year

(a)	by local authority	45
(b)	Private enterprise	44

2. Inspection of Dwellings during the year

(i)	Inspected for housing defects under P.H. Acts	14
(ii)	Inspected for housing defects under Housing Acts	10
(iii)	Number of dwellings found so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation.	3
(iv)	Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation.	4

3. Remedy of defects by Informal Action.

Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action. 7

4. Action under Statutory Powers (Public Health and Housing Acts)

(A) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(i)	Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	-
(ii)	Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices.	
	(a) by owners	-
	(b) by local authority in default of owners	-

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(i)	Number of dwellings in respect of which formal notices were served.	1
(ii)	Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices.	
	(a) by owners	1
	(b) by local authority in default of owners.	-

(C) Proceedings under sections 16, 17 and 27 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(i)	Number of demolition orders made	1
(ii)	Number of houses demolished as result of formal action.	4
(iii)	Number of undertakings accepted.	4
(iv)	Number of undertakings completed.	4
(v)	Number of houses where Closing Orders were made	-
(vi)	Number of houses where Closing Orders were cancelled.	2
(vii)	Number of houses closed as a result of Closing Orders or undertakings.	13

Housing Statistics for 1965 (Contd.)

(D) Proceedings under sections 42 and 43 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(i)	Number of houses under which Demolition Orders were made.	-
(ii)	Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	-
(iii)	Number of houses demolished due to informal action.	3
(iv)	Number of unfit houses purchased by Council and demolished as part of reconstruction schemes.	-

(E) Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(i)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	-
(ii)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were cancelled, as a result of premises having been made fit.	-

5. Housing Act, 1957, Part IV. - Overcrowding.

(i)	Number of cases of overcrowded dwellings at end of year.	3
(ii)	Number of cases discovered during year.	3
(iii)	Number of cases abated during year.	4

TABLE OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

Water supply	470
Drainage	31
Movable dwellings	33
Refuse disposal and collection	1129
Bakehouses and Factories	32
Visits made by Inspectors re Pest Control	54
Visits made by Operator for Treatment..	1057
Visits made by Operator for Survey	571
Miscellaneous Sanitary visits (Schools, Agriculture, etc.) ...	46
Housing visits under Public Health Act, 1936.	34
Visits under Housing Act, 1957.	38
Overcrowding and allocation of houses	1071
Council House inspection visits	9
Verminous premises...	4
Miscellaneous Housing visits	17
Improvement grants	340
Infectious diseases	185
Slaughterhouse visits	-
Visits to Butchers, Fishmongers, etc...	35
Visits to Grocers and Greengrocers	65
Visits to Food preparing premises generally	42
Visits to licensed houses	19
Visits to Dairies and Cowsheds	44
Milk sampling visits	154
Miscellaneous food visits	18
Offices, Shops and Railway premises	15
TOTAL ...	5513

HOUSING

During 1965 the Council erected 45 new houses and bungalows compared with 53 in 1964. Members will find below the customary list showing the waiting list for Council houses and on this occasion the figures are shown for the years 1963, 1964 and 1965. From this it will be seen that the list remains approximately static as to total numbers but with a significant reduction in the number of urgent cases. The list excludes slum clearance cases of which there are now very few, these being confined in the main to a few War Department houses, the tenants of which the Council have already undertaken to re-house, and a small number of houses occupied by elderly people who have elected to remain undisturbed.

A number of non-urgent housing cases were re-housed during the year, but a number remain who have been on the list for some time. These are mainly childless couples and single women living in rooms, whose urgency by the standard set by the Council must be regarded as low. Provision for these people has, in fact, been made in Pewsey, in particular by a scheme to erect grouped accommodation for the elderly, bungalows and small flats in the centre of the village. Most unfortunately, this very desirable scheme has been held up a very long time by difficulties over land acquisition. Schemes for the provision of grouped accommodation for the elderly at Ludgershall and Tidworth have proceeded at a much quicker pace, and both schemes are likely to get under way during 1966.

A further table is given showing the number of improvement grants, both discretionary and standard, which were approved during the year 1965 together with the figures for 1963 and 1964. From this table it will be seen that the number of approvals has declined during the year and one may expect this trend to continue. With over 640 houses now improved, only the most difficult now remain and some of these, due to awkward siting or other reasons of this kind, it may not be possible to improve until main sewerage becomes available in certain parishes. The Council's Netheravon and Enford Sewerage scheme has not made the apparent impact in this direction that one would expect due mainly to the large number of Army Department owned houses in these Parishes. The Army Department, however, whilst ineligible to receive improvement grants from the Council have instituted their own scheme for the improvement of cottages, and there is no doubt that the Enford and Netheravon Sewerage scheme has assisted them considerably. It may well be that the Council's proposed Wootton Rivers Sewerage scheme will have its effect on improvement grants, as drainage conditions in this parish are very difficult and a number of people have been discouraged from installing septic tanks for this reason. The all embracing character of housing work is shown by the number of applicants that there are on the housing list whose main reason for applying for a Council house is to secure the benefits of bathrooms and hot water systems. These people mainly live in tenanted houses and are not usually farm workers, since the farmers have by and large made an excellent job of modernising their houses. There is no doubt that resolute use of the compulsory improvement powers given to the Council in the Housing Act of 1964 would secure a great improvement in this position in certain parishes where the numbers of tenanted properties are high, but like so many other useful measures this depends upon the ability of the Department to carry out the work and during 1965 there was certainly no prospect of this being done.

WAITING LIST FOR COUNCIL HOUSES

	1963	1964	1965
Urgent cases resising in district	105	102	83
Non-urgent cases residing in district	192	198	223
Total	297	300	306
Urgent cases residing outside district	25	10	14
Non-urgent cases residing outside district	78	60	62
Total	103	70	76
Grand Total	400	370	382

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

	1963	1964	1965
Discretionary grant approved	50	56	39
Standard grants approved	14	12	11
Average total cost of discretionary improvement schemes.	£851	£897	£867
Average percentage grant	38.2%	36.9%	36.1%

WATER SUPPLY

Given below is the customary table showing the number of water samples taken by the Department, and the results during the year under review.

It will be seen that 408 samples were taken for bacteriological analysis, compared with a total of 356 in 1964. Of this large number almost half were taken from the Council's Collingbourne supply, as a continuation of the investigation that was under way at the end of 1964. This investigation arose because of a small number of bad samples which occurred in random situations on the service mains, and after much trouble and time, it was eventually discovered that one of the bore holes was producing polluted water intermittently and that owing to the fact that the greater part of the distribution mains were connected to the rising main to the reservoir, the water was not having a sufficient contact period with the chlorine which was being fed into it. As a result of this, the Council accepted a recommendation that water should only be put into the mains after it had been passed through the reservoir, and new automatic chlorinating equipment was ordered to give more effective control over the supply. Before this could be installed severe pollution was detected in the water from both bore holes accompanied by a very vile taste. It was possible to deal with the pollution by injecting a large dose of chlorine into the water, but if anything this produced an even worse taste, and before very long the Council were obliged to shut down the supply and to install emergency arrangements to pump water from our other bore holes at Compton.

Investigation of the trouble disclosed that it had arisen from the discharge of silage liquor and drainage into the bed of the River Bourne above the bore holes, and as the bore holes are close to the Bourne and in an area of very porous chalk, it can reasonably be assumed that this material found its way very quickly into the water bearing strata. The pollution and taste persisted for several months after the water had been withdrawn from public supply and was not abated by any measures that the Council could take, including pumping to waste and, of course, the shutting off of the flow of drainage from the Bourne.

At the time of writing this report, the supply is still out of service, as the Bourne rose and flowed freely during the winter of 1965/66 and it was not considered safe to re-activate the supply in these conditions.

It is quite clear that it is unwise, where the water bearing strata is chalk, to rely on a short contact period for chlorination, and there is no doubt that in circumstances such as these super-chlorination and de-chlorination is essential if the safety of the supply is to be maintained. Moreover, I feel obliged to comment that it can never be really safe to supply water direct from the pumping main without passing the water through a reservoir, where the chlorinating apparatus is of the normal simple kind.

As can be imagined, the investigation and remedial measures involved in this affair were very time consuming and put back the Department's work very considerably.

A similar problem arose at Alton Priors and Barnes where the supply to the village is privately owned. Here, as will be noted, a number of unsatisfactory results were obtained and an investigation was undertaken of the two wells from which the water originates. Here again intermittent pollution was detected from one well and it was shut off from supply to the public. However, it is clear that this is not an entirely satisfactory solution to the problem since the other bore hole is not entirely reliable as to purity and in order to ensure adequate protection, this supply should be chlorinated.

With regard to water supply generally, protracted negotiations have been going on for the formation of a Water Board which will eventually take over the Council's responsibility in this direction. At the time of writing this report, the Board is due to come into operation in April, 1967. This, to a certain extent, has bedevilled the Council's deliberations as to the future use of the Collingbourne supply, since they do not wish to commit the newly formed Board by so drastic a measure as either -

(a) abandoning the Collingbourne boreholes or

(b) sinking further bore holes elsewhere to replace them.

Bearing in mind the previous history of the existing bore holes, and their location, it is evident that they should only be used as a standby, until the Board is in a position to make its decision.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

Netheravon, Enford, Upavon, Charlton, Rushall, Manningfords, North Newnton, Pewsey, Woodborough, Wilcot.	Chlorinated supply from boreholes owned by Council. pH value 7.4. Total hardness 190 p.p.m. 49 bacteriological samples taken 1 Faecal. 1 Non-Faecal.
Burbage, Milton Lilbourne, Easton Royal, Collingbourne Kingston and Ducis.	Chlorinated supply from borehole owned by Council. pH value 7.5. Total hardness 260 p.p.m. 151 bacteriological samples taken. 22 non-faecal. 17 faecal. 4 chemical satisfactory.
Ludgershall, Chutes.	Chlorinated water purchased in bulk from Andover R.D.C. pH value 7.5. Total hardness 235 p.p.m. 40 bacteriological samples taken. All satisfactory.
Wootton Rivers	Chlorinated supply from deep well. pH 7.1. Total hardness 285 p.p.m. 37 bacteriological samples taken. 3 non-faecal.
North Tidworth	Chlorinated water from War Department source. pH. 7.5. Total hardness 210 p.p.m. 39 bacteriological samples taken. All satisfactory.
Everleigh	Chlorinated water from War Department source. 37 bacteriological samples taken. All satisfactory.
Alton	48 samples taken, 25 satisfactory. 12 faecal. 15 non-faecal. Private supply.
Oare	7 samples taken, all satisfactory.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Once again I must report that the level of supervision of food premises was poor and only 179 visits of all kinds were made to food premises. I deplore this inadequate total but in the circumstances of the year it would have been impossible to do more due to the other urgent work thrust upon the Department by the breakdown of the Collingbourne Water scheme and other matters which are referred to in this report. I begin to wonder when, if ever, this important facet of the Department's work will receive the attention it deserves. Certainly not while the staff is at its present level.

The following food was condemned as unsound during 1965.

Meat at Butchers' shops	-	$1\frac{3}{4}$-lbs.
Cooked meats	-	27 -lbs.
Fish	-	12 -lbs.
Fruit and vegetables	-	5 -lbs.

As in previous years, the privately owned licensed slaughterhouse in the district was not used for slaughtering, and the owners have now allowed the licence to lapse.

The customary list follows showing the numbers and types of food premises in the district. In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 1/66 this list has been altered from its usual form in order to show the numbers of premises to which Regulations 16 and 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, apply, and the numbers of premises fitted with washbasins and sinks to comply with these Regulations.

Type and No. of Premises.		No. Complying with Reg. 16	No. to which Reg. 19 applies	No. complying with Reg. 19.
Butchers	10	10	10	10
Bakers	8	8	8	8
Fishmongers	4	4	4	4
Greengrocers	4	4	-	-
Cafes	7	7	7	7
Fishfryers	2	2	2	2
Food factories	8	8	8	8
Grocers and General Stores	56	56	38	38
Licensed Houses and Clubs	54	54	54	54

The following premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955:

(1)	For the storage and sale of prepacked ice cream	-	59
(2)	For the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream	-	1
(3)	For fish-frying	-	2
(4)	For sausage manufacture and preparation of meats	-	8

REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION

1965 saw a considerable improvement in the refuse collection service. For many years the Council had provided a weekly service from the kerbside for the 3 major parishes of Ludgershall, Tidworth and Pewsey, with a fortnightly service to the other Parishes in the district. In May 1965 a 35-cubic yard continuous compression type vehicle was delivered and the Council were then able to give a weekly service to all the Parishes in the district.

For many years the Army Department had had refuse from Married Quarters, barracks and other installations on Salisbury Plain, collected by contract, the Army Department providing and manning a tip at Perham Down. The Council had used this tip themselves for many years, on two days of each week. During 1964 it became clear that the life of this tip was almost at an end and the Army Department contemplated the erection of a new incinerator on the site. At the same time complaints about the contractor service mounted, and eventually the Army Department approached the Council with a request that they should take over responsibility for refuse collection and disposal from all Army Department properties in their area. After lengthy negotiations the Council undertook to carry out this service on a repayment basis and after a delay of several months whilst a further 35 cubic yard compression type vehicle was ordered and delivered and the necessary staff recruited, this service began on the 1st October, 1965. It has run very smoothly indeed and the Army Department have expressed themselves as very satisfied with the service and with the economies that have resulted. Married quarters in Ludgershall, Tidworth and Netheravon are serviced from the kerbside once weekly, but at the request of the Department, a twice weekly service is given to cookhouses, barracks and the many workshops and stores that lie within the district.

North Tidworth is in process of continuous growth and the schedules of the vehicle on the army service have been framed with this very much in mind. The change-over to a weekly collection and the additional load from the army sector, together with the closure of the Army tip, has meant that a considerable extra load has been placed upon the Council's central tip at Everleigh and it was necessary to take on a full time tractor driver to cope with the extra refuse now collected. In addition the weekly collection has resulted in a considerable increase in the amount of salvage collected which is now quite beyond the capacity of the existing building for storage purposes and of the hand baler for output. As a result, approaches were made to the Southern Electricity Board who have found that they are now able to supply a single phase electricity supply to this rather remote tip. During 1966 it is planned to erect a large army surplus shed for the storage of waste paper and an electrically powered baler for the improvement of the output of baled waste paper.

1965 proved to be a good year for salvage generally and the results are given below:-

Weight of baled waste paper sold	140 tons. 11 cwts. 1 qr.
Value of salvage sold :-	
Waste paper	£1,092. 16. 4d.
Rags	119. 13. 0d.
Metals	90. 9. 5d.
	£1,302. 18. 9d.

The details of the refuse collection staff and vehicles are as follows:-

1961 -	18 cubic yard fore and aft tipper ...	1
1963 -	25 cubic yard fore and aft tipper ...	1
1965 -	35 cubic yard continuous compression vehicle ...	2

each vehicle is equipped with a salvage trailer.

Eleven men are engaged on the actual collection service, backed up by one tractor driver and one man engaged on paper baling.

PEST CONTROL

During the year 226 properties were successfully treated by the Rodent Operator for infestations by rats and mice. Warfarin is the poison in principal use, and no evidence of resistance to it has so far been found. In addition the following infestations by insect pests were dealt with.

Cockroaches	-	5
Ants	-	4
Wasps	-	2
Mites	-	2

MILK SAMPLING

179 milk samples of all types were taken during the year compared with 220 during 1964. Results generally were not so satisfactory as in 1964 in that there was an increase in the number of samples failing the Methylene blue test for keeping quality. Three samples of milk failed the Phosphatase test for adequate pasteurisation. These samples were of heat-treated milks produced in the areas of other local authorities who were immediately notified of the results.

Sample Tests 1965.

Samples subjected to Methylene Blue Test	142
Samples subjected to Phosphatase test	114
Samples of untreated milk failing Methylene blue test	3
Samples of heat treated milk failing Methylene blue test	6
Samples of heat treated milk failing Phosphatase test	3
Samples subjected to biological examination for presence of tubercle bacilli ...	38
Samples showing positive tuberculosis reaction	Nil
Samples subjected to Ring Test for presence of Brucella abortus ...	38
Samples showing positive reaction to Ring Test	Nil
Samples of milk showing positive Brucella abortus reaction on biological examination ...	Nil
Samples of Sterilised milk subjected to Turbidity test	23
Samples of milk failing Turbidity test	Nil

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

During the year work on the Netheravon Section of the Netheravon/Enford sewerage scheme was completed and house connections were proceeding, albeit rather slowly. It may well be necessary for the Council to use their statutory powers to compel certain owners to connect in this area.

Work was proceeding on the Enford section of this scheme and, in addition, preparatory work was started on the scheme to serve the two parishes of Collingbourne and a further scheme for the small parish of Wootton Rivers, where drainage difficulties are acute, was in preparation.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS

During 1965 there were 101 licensed caravans in the district; 91 on sites with 2 or more caravans, and the remainder on individual sites. Of the 91 referred to above 75 are distributed among 3 large sites.

In addition one of the sites on the A.345 road has been licensed to provide touring pitches for 5 caravans, as the Council wished to provide facilities for overnight halts in the district.

DISEASE OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1957

The Council's control of these premises is derived from the Wiltshire County Council by delegation. Five premises remained licensed during the year under review; all were satisfactory.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

It will be noted from the Table of Inspections and visits at the beginning of this report, that only 15 visits were made in connection with this important aspect of the Department's work and I have referred to this in the preamble to this report.

Those inspections that were carried out, however, did reveal that if this job is to be done properly, it will be a very time consuming affair and with approximately 150 premises to be inspected, it is quite clear that it will be some time before even the initial inspections are completed.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The control of infectious diseases involved your Officers in 185 visits during the year. This is about 100 less than in 1964, a very welcome reduction. Those visits that were made were mainly in connection with what now seems to be the inevitable annual outbreak of Sonne Dysentery.

PART I - FACTORIES ACT

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1965 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT
OF PEWSEY IN THE COUNTY OF WILTSHIRE

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1 - Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Number of Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	7	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	35	25	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	45	32	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	-	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	-	-	1	-